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# BLACKOUT THE WHITE STRIPES FADE DISH {page 26}

HALIFAX

# metro®

Weekend, February 4-6, 2011  
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.



# Kept in the dark

► Justice Department takes more than a day to alert public of mistaken prisoner release last November, emails show ► Vernon Martell in custody at Central Nova Correctional Facility in Burnside for theft under \$5,000 ► Department says discrepancy error reason for release

The Justice Department took 26 hours to devise a news release before it notified the public about the mistaken release of a prisoner last year, according to emails obtained under access-to-information legislation.

The emails, between various officials in the department including Justice Minister Ross Landry, are largely blacked out and don't explain why it took more than a day to issue a brief statement about the premature release of Vernon Martell on Nov. 5.

But they confirm the Justice Department

was not aware of the mistake until Nov. 8 and that officials drafted a news release a day later and issued it after media outlets inquired about the mistake.

In all, more than two dozen emails were exchanged between Justice officials before they issued a news release on Nov. 9 at 6:32 p.m. about Martell's premature release.

In an interview, department spokesperson Bruce Nunn said Martell's case was complex because he was to return to jail for breaching a conditional sentence in the

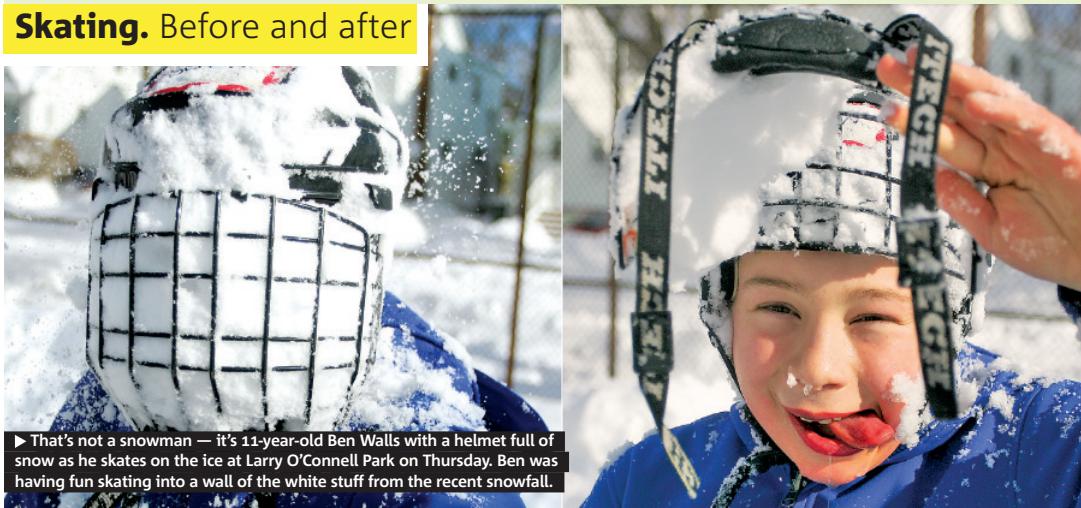
## 'Unacceptable' delay

► Tory member Cecil Clarke who was the justice minister under the former Conservative government, said such a lag is unacceptable.

community.

He said it took time to track down accurate information between the courts, correctional staff and department administration. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Skating. Before and after



► That's not a snowman — it's 11-year-old Ben Walls with a helmet full of snow as he skates on the ice at Larry O'Connell Park on Thursday. Ben was having fun skating into a wall of the white stuff from the recent snowfall.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Taking a breath of air, after a face full of snow

## Super Bowl Sunday Get ready for a football frenzy

► Take your game grub up a notch {page 28} ► How the two starting quarterbacks compare {pages 30} ► Will a big win help Ben Roethlisberger restore his shattered image? {page 30}



## Kidman spills the beans

Star dishes on her split with Tom Cruise {page 27}

## The kids aren't alright?

Research shows Haligonians are losing confidence in the public school system {page 6}

## Journalists beaten in Cairo

President's supporters attack, detain foreign reporters {page 8}



## WEEKEND SPECIALS FRI-SUN

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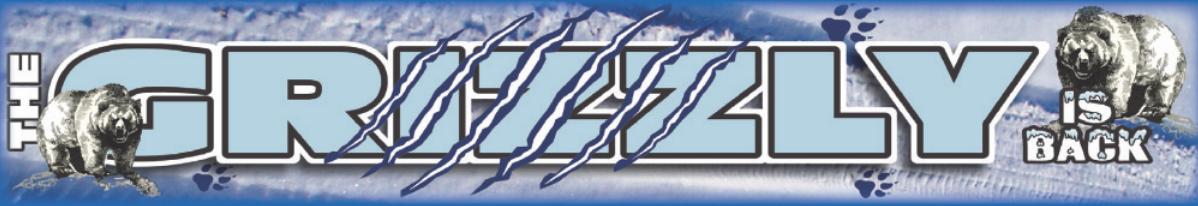
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# Snow days good for play

► Several flight delays at Halifax airport Thursday ► Snow-covered roads blamed in school-bus crash in P.E.I. that sent some students to hospital



► Lily Lowe, 8, right, and her friend Philippa Reid, 8, play inside a snow fort in their Hydrostone neighbourhood on Thursday.

JENNIFER TAPLIN  
@METRONEWS.CA

It's only when the city is blanketed in over 30 centimetres of snow that forts can be tricked out with reading nooks, slides and steps.

Lily Lowe, 8, and Georgia Lewis, 6, said they've been building their extensive snow fort in their Hydrostone neighbourhood for a few days now. School kids in many areas of the province enjoyed their second day off Thursday.

"We like to make snow forts and snow men," said Lowe as she gave Metro a tour of her snow palace.

It's not as much fun to shovel all that snow, but Jane Wilson of Bedford said she didn't mind the exercise.

"It's good for me," she said.

Thirteen-year-old Adelaide von Kursell spent most of her two snow days skating at Larry O'Connell Park in Halifax.

"I love snow. It's something to do and something to play with," she said.

As for official numbers, HRM received between 30 to 38 cm of snow from Wednesday's storm.

"We got a report of 38 cm in the Lower Sackville area and 35 cm in Dartmouth," said Bob Roubichaud, an Environment Canada meteorologist.

Preliminary estimates from HRM suggest all the snow this week will cost about \$1.2 million to clean up. Another 10 to 15 cm fell overnight Tuesday.

That cost includes about \$400,000 to be spent clearing bus stops and

**2,000** The number of New Glasgow residents whose power was out due to the storm.

downtown areas today and tomorrow.

And don't retire the shovel just yet: forecasters were watching another system in the Gulf of Mexico that has the potential to bring more snow and rain to the region on the weekend.

WITH FILES FROM  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Heritage rules don't apply to Barrington

Two Barrington Street developments have been successfully exempted from heritage district rules and HRMbyDesign provisions.

Developments for the Roy Building, located at 1657 Barrington St., and the Discovery Centre building, located at 1593 Barrington St., were proposed before the Barrington Street Heritage Conservation District Revitalization Plan and the Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy.

Council approved the developer's request to be grandfathered in under the former rules last year, but required provincial ascent. The province recently signed off on the projects according to HRM spokeswoman Shaune MacKinlay.

Both developments, however, now require approval of council. Both will also require public hearings. ■ ALEX BOUTILIER

news



New evidence suggests foxes predate dogs as original "man's best friend." Scan code for story.

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Small scissors, tools now allowed on flights after changes at Transport Canada. Video at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

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## West End Bay closing

The Bay at West End Mall will soon be closing its doors.

CTV reported Thursday night that the Hudson Bay Company's store is shutting down its only Halifax location at the end of April.

■ METRO

## Cab driver sprayed

Police say a cab driver was sprayed in the face with a sensory irritant as he dropped off two passengers Thursday afternoon on Farrell Road in Dartmouth.

The 62-year-old was sprayed with what is believed to be bear spray.

■ METRO

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## Exhibit takes cue from billiards

Play will be set up in the first- and third-floor galleries of the Discovery Centre until May 8.

# Music festival's 2010 bottom line explodes

► Festival with \$300K budget estimates millions in economic spinoff ► Talent budget to rise by up to \$30K

 **ALEX BOUTILIER**  
@METRONEWS.CA

Talk about music to the ears.

Halifax Pop Explosion enjoyed its highest attendance in the event's 18-year history in 2010, Metro has learned.

Executive director Jonny Stevens said Thursday recently tallied cumulative attendance for the five-day indie music festival was 17,325. That's up approximately 4,000 from the year before.

"It's big," Stevens said.  
"There was one year

### Pop go the profits

► Using Trade Centre Limited figures for how much money is spent by the average concert-goer and multi-day festival-goer, Stevens estimates somewhere between \$2 million and \$3.9 million in direct and indirect benefits for the city.

where we had, I think it was '07 or '08, where the numbers were getting close to where we are currently. But certainly nothing like where we are right now."

Stevens attributes the

growth to having attracted the bands that fans want to see, as well as to having introduced a festival wristband model.

"I think it's two things: The strength of the talent ... and changing our ticketing model from every show is a hard ticket to the wristband model, where every show is accessible through a low-cost wristband," Stevens said.

The festival organization is currently not equipped for a comprehensive evaluation of economic spinoff, but plans to have one in place for the 2011 festival held each October.

## School meeting to go Tuesday

The meeting between Education Minister Ramona Jennex and school board representatives has been tentatively re-scheduled for Tuesday.

Jennex and the boards were scheduled to meet Thursday, but the meeting was postponed due to heavy snowfall. The sit-down aims at quelling rising public animosity between the government and the boards over cuts to public education.

Jennex said Thursday she hopes to give the boards their tentative budget allocations Tuesday. She also said the numbers will be made public once they speak.

► ALEX BOUTILIER

## Province ponders self-paving

Government-made pavement could soon be spread on some roads in Nova Scotia. Transportation Minister Bill Estabrooks said Thursday.

Estabrooks said department officials are considering purchasing and operating a mobile asphalt plant as a way of dealing with uncompetitive bids on road tenders in some areas of the province.

He said the government believes there are areas in Cape Breton and southwestern Nova Scotia where the bid process for paving highways and roads could be more competitive.

► THE CANADIAN PRESS

# 15

The number of four-stream sorters that replaced 51 garbage cans on the Halifax waterfront this summer.

About half of all waste on the waterfront is organic, but only 49 per cent of it was sorted correctly.

Challinor said he thinks that's because 25 to 30 per cent of the traffic on the waterfront consists of tourists, and organic recycling is relatively uncommon.

He added they had a meeting scheduled Thursday with Environment Minister Sterling Belliveau and HRM staff to discuss the project.

► JENNIFER TAPLIN

## Date set for murder trial

A man facing a murder charge in the death of a Spryfield man last February is scheduled to go to trial in November.

Michael Rae Ells, a 29-year-old from Halifax, is charged with second-degree murder in the killing of Robert Douglas Payne.

At Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Halifax Thursday, dates were set for his jury trial. It's scheduled for three weeks, and is slated to begin Nov. 14.

Last February, Payne, 28, was found suffering from a stab wound inside an apartment at 6 Foxwood Terrace in Spryfield.

► PHILIP CROUCHER

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## CRIME

**Man swarmed by teens**

Halifax Regional Police are investigating a swarming by a large group of teenagers in the midst of Wednesday's storm.

According to police spokesman Const. Brian Palmer, a 49-year-old man was assaulted near

the North Memorial Public Library on Gottingen Street by a group of 10 to 15 teens.

The man was treated by paramedics for minor injuries.

The incident took place at roughly 5:30 p.m., when there was limited foot and vehicle traffic.

The victim was able to provide descriptions of two of the youths, Palmer said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police. **ALEX BOUTILIER**

**Understanding urged amid church sex scandal**

A Roman Catholic archbishop in Nova Scotia has appealed for understanding from parishioners of a diocese rocked by allegations of sexual abuse by priests, calling the pastors' behaviour "criminal, immoral and shameful."

In a letter to the diocese of Yarmouth, Archbishop Anthony Mancini of Halifax called on church members to use their faith to get through this latest sex scandal involving decades-old claims against Catholic priests.

**Settlement**

The open letter came a few days after it was announced the Yarmouth diocese had reached a settlement with six people in a sex abuse case.

"There is no excuse for it and there is not much that can be done to change what has happened," Mancini, the apostolic administrator of Yarmouth, said in a letter to congregants dated Jan. 24. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Care home review to consider board structure**

Nova Scotia's minister of community services says an independent review of a Cape Breton special-care home will include consideration of who sits on its board of directors.

Denise Peterson-Rafuse ordered the review of Braemore Home in Sydney after it was revealed a 20-year-old autistic man was kept in a constantly lit room for 15 days last September.

The union for front-line staff at Braemore wants the review to look at who sets policy at the home.

Peterson-Rafuse says it's likely time to look at adding expertise to the current board from the special-needs field, as well as input from families and community members. The current board is composed of municipal councillors.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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**Public schools not inspiring confidence**

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► Students walk towards Citadel high school in this file photo.

- Haligonians have better view of post-secondary school system than public one, research finds
- Various reasons for dwindling faith in public system

**BY THE NUMBERS**

RICK EMBERLEY  
HALIFAX@METRONEWS.CA



Our public school system appears to be failing us.

Based on research I've conducted,

more than 50 per cent of people in HRM feel it is not delivering the outcomes that we need.

And furthermore, more than 80 per cent feel the provincial government does not invest enough in the system.

That's a rather interesting finding given the current debate about funding to the province's school boards.

By contrast, Haligonians have a very positive view of the post-secondary education system.

More than 90 per cent of respondents reported to me in recent polls that they rate our universities as good to excellent, and a resounding 95 per cent rate our community college system as good to excellent.

The difference in our views regarding P-12 versus post-secondary education all seems to boil down to our perception of

the quality of the system and, of course, the outcomes.

Faith in our public school system has been deteriorating since the early 1990s.

The reasons for this drop in confidence in our schools boil down to perceptions of "poor quality of teaching" (46 per cent), "poor condition of our schools" (12 per cent) and "poor course selection" (16 per cent).

Almost 60 per cent of HRM residents believe the system is not delivering a sound basic education, the three R's.

On the other hand, our universities and colleges are delivering great value for the money, and if asked, more than 85 per cent of us would recommend pursuing a post-secondary education.

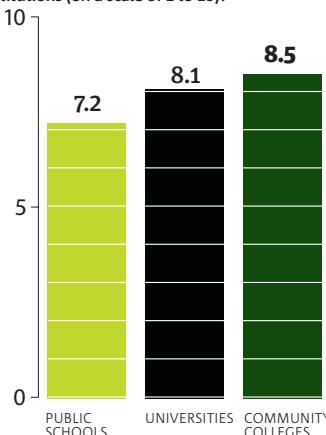
A growing number of us, however, would suggest college over university.

Government preoccupation about the cost of education may be well founded, but when is someone going to start talking about quality, value for money?

*Rick Emberley is senior counsel at Marketquest-Omnifacts, an Atlantic Canada research firm. He has conducted public opinion research in the region for over 25 years.*

**Quality comparison**

How would you rate the quality of our educational institutions (on a scale of 1 to 10)?



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# Rocks fly in Cairo, journalists beaten

► President says he wants to resign but fears chaos ► New looting, arson

Menacing gangs backing President Hosni Mubarak attacked journalists and human rights activists Thursday as Egypt's crisis took an ugly turn.

Protesters and regime supporters fought in a second day of rock-throwing battles at a central Cairo square while lawlessness spread around the city.

New looting and arson erupted.

Meanwhile, more trouble loomed as organizers called for protesters trying to topple the regime to fill every square in the huge capital on Friday.

The new vice-president, Omar Suleiman, fuelled anti-foreign sentiment by going on state television and blaming outsiders for fomenting unrest.

Mubarak himself said in a television interview that

he's fed up and wants to resign. But he said he can't for fear the country will sink into chaos.

He said he's very unhappy about the clashes in central Tahrir Square.

"I do not want to see Egyptians fighting each other," said Mubarak, 82.

Pro-government mobs beat foreign journalists

with sticks and fists. The Committee to Protect Journalists said 24 reporters were detained in 24 hours, including representatives of The Washington Post and The New York Times.

Twenty-one journalists were assaulted, including two with Fox News.

One Greek journalist was stabbed in the leg

with a screwdriver, and a photographer was punched in the face, his equipment smashed.

The Arabic news network Al-Arabiya pleaded for the army to protect its journalists.

Al-Jazeera said four of its correspondents were attacked.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Yemen cities erupt with protests

Tens of thousands of protesters Thursday staged unprecedented demonstrations against Yemen's autocratic president, a key U.S. ally in battling world-

wide Islamic militants.

Protesters rallied in seven towns and cities across Yemen, with chants of "Down, down, down with the regime!" and banners calling on the president to resign now.

In Sanaa, several thousand government supporters held a counter-rally, with banners warning the opposition is trying to destabilize Yemen.

Military helicopters hovered in some areas, and there was a heavy security presence around the Interior Ministry and the Central Bank.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in office for three decades, said Wednesday he would not seek re-election in 2013. But opposition groups say they are suspicious of his offer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Anti-government protesters hurl rocks during clashes in Cairo on Thursday.

# Slaughtered sled dogs called old, sick

The man at the centre of a slaughter of up to 100 sled dogs says half the animals put down were old, sick or "not adoptable."

Robert Fawcett and the company that bought his business, Outdoor Adventures, issued a statement in an effort to answer some of the questions hanging over the case that has grabbed headlines around the world.

The statement said Fawcett told Outdoor Adventures he estimated about 50 dogs would have to be euthanized.

"These dogs live to run

and were not able to do so and would have had to be kept in cages with the result that they would have had very poor or virtually no quality of life," the statement said.

It's alleged the animals were dumped in a mass grave after business collapsed following the 2010 Winter Olympics.

WorkSafe BC documents indicate the dogs were shot and others had their throats slit.

Both the RCMP and the SPCA have been investigating.

A worker has been



► A sled dog rests after an Outdoor Adventures tour near Whistler, B.C.

awarded compensation related to post-traumatic stress from the incident.

On Wednesday, Fawcett was removed from the board of directors of a

group that sets voluntary guidelines for the industry.

"We're not assigning any guilt on him and we certainly don't have any more information than anyone else," Mush with Pride president Karen Ramstead said from Perryvale, Alta., where she runs a kennel for Siberian huskies.

"We just felt that our by-laws allowed for this if a board member was bringing unwanted attention to Mush with Pride, which is what we felt this situation was doing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Answers?

- The joint statement from Robert Fawcett and the company doesn't refer to 100 dogs, only 50 it said needed to be put down.
- Fawcett was the general manager of Howling Dog Tours. Outdoor Adventures has said it took over full control of Howling Dog Tours last May.
- WorkSafe BC documents suggest Howling Dog had 300 dogs and there was pressure to get rid of a third of them.

## Medal says: We're proud, your majesty

Canada will strike a commemorative medal to mark the Queen's diamond jubilee next year, her 60th year on the throne.

The silver medal carries the Queen's image on the face. The reverse bears four stylized maple leaves, the Queen's ER initials and the dates 1952-2012.

There will also be a spe-

cial emblem, the formal symbol of the jubilee, featuring a spray of maple leaves around an ER and a crown.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper said the medal will be awarded to Canadians who have made outstanding contributions to their communities and their country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Governor General David Johnston, left, and Prime Minister Stephen Harper unveil the jubilee medal design in Ottawa Thursday.

## Inmate loses his bid to serve time here

A Canadian man busted in the United States for importing cocaine has lost his bid to force Ottawa to allow him to serve out his sentence in Canada.

In a ruling released Thursday, a Federal Court judge found no violation of Perley Holmes' constitutional right as a Canadian to enter the country.

Holmes, a married fa-

ther of eight, is serving his time in Pennsylvania.

He is one of five Canadians whose applications under the International Transfer of Offenders Act were refused by the federal government.

Holmes' supporters say it's "cruel" to have him incarcerated so far from his wife and children.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Carry-on rules eased

► Canada now in line with U.S., European standards for packed baggage ► Goal is to 'reduce hassles'

Small scissors and tools, such as eyeglass screwdrivers, are now permitted aboard planes, while restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols remain the same.

There's a six-centimetre limit for these tools, excluding the handle. Knives of any length, including Swiss Army multi-tools, are still banned.

The changes announced Thursday are part of an effort to reduce hassles at airports, Transport Minister Chuck Strahl said at a news conference at Ottawa's Macdonald-Cartier airport. Other changes are in the works to speed up security screening.

"There will also be new dedicated lanes for families and those with special needs, with equipment specifically designed for big

**"We believe these initiatives achieve the best balance of aviation safety and security, and passenger convenience."**

CHUCK STRAHL,  
TRANSPORT MINISTER

ger items like strollers," Strahl said.

There will also be new lines for frequent travellers preapproved under the Nexus card program.

The idea is to ensure security while increasing convenience for travellers, he said, noting that he recognizes the frustration generated by air security measures: "It's a process that's more tolerated than



► A security agent assists a passenger through a gate at the Ottawa airport on Thursday as Chuck Strahl announces a loosening of restrictions on carry-on baggage.

enjoyed."

The Transport Department noted in a news release that manicure scissors and miniature screwdrivers pose little threat in an era of reinforced cockpit doors and other routine security

measures.

Other items still not permitted in checked baggage include firearms, box cutters or heavy tools, golf clubs, toys resembling weapons and lighters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Bag and baggage

Regulations on carry-on items have shifted in response to attempts by terrorists to circumvent airport security. For example, Ottawa last fall banned the carrying of large cartridges of copier toner after an attempt was made to down a cargo plane with explosives packed into such a container. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Channel 10 in HRM



# Poison plot targeted cook: Crown

► Former nanny pleads guilty to spiking food for sex-shop queen ► Court hears of hatred towards cook

A former nanny employed by the owner of a chain of British sex shops has admitted to spiking her boss's soup with windshield-washer fluid.

Allison Cox pleaded guilty on Thursday to one charge of administering poison to Jacqueline Gold "with intent to injure, aggrieve or annoy." The Crown dropped two other charges of attempted poisoning with sugar and salt.

The hearing was the first time the Crown re-

**"The nanny had 'some animosity ... towards the cook. She put (the poison) into the food to cause the cook to be questioned about it."** RACHEL DAVIES, PROSECUTOR

vealed a motive for the poisoning last October. Prosecutor Rachel Davies said Cox, 33, tampered with the food in an attempt to get the household's chef in trouble.

The plot unravelled after Gold criticized the cook about the odd-tasting food. The chef grew suspicious

and removed the leftover broth from the garbage to investigate.

Cox will be sentenced on March 4. She is free on bail.

Gold is one of Britain's richest women, with a fortune estimated at \$290 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Allison Cox arrives at Guildford court in southern England last month.



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**Heat wave. Flower power**



► A Kew diploma student puts the finishing touches on displays for the Tropical Extravaganza at Kew Gardens.

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### A breath of tropical air

Billed as a "taste of the tropics," the annual Tropical Extravaganza at Kew Gardens, London, boasts one of the largest orchid collections in the world. This year's festival, which runs from until March 6, celebrates the rainforest, to coincide with the UN International Year of Forests.

### Judge's son arrested in hot casino chip sting

**\$1.5M**  
The value of chips stolen from the Bellagio resort, in denominations from \$100 to \$25,000.

George Assad.

The robbery took place on Dec. 14 at the Bellagio resort. Security-camera video of the heist was broadcast widely on television and the Internet.

Casino security experts said the thief's choice of booty was foolish, since casinos track chips, especially high-dollar chips. In December, Bellagio announced it was discontinuing its \$25,000 chip and gamblers had until April 22 to redeem them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# PREOWNED **CLEAROUT!**





► Celebrity makeup artist Alena Klenot recently launched O La La Powder through iTunes, a comprehensive makeup tutorial app for young women. Visit [alenaclenot.com](http://alenaclenot.com) for more info.

## 5 MINUTES WITH: ALENA KLENOT

**Toronto celebrity makeup artist Alena Klenot has launched a new app to teach you how to give face like the stars.**

**There are tons of makeup artists out there. How does one get to be a celebrity makeup artist?**

It's the practice. I work with lots of celebrities and I got there because, obviously, I think I was good (laughs). Someone can recommend you, but you have to keep up.

**Who was your first celebrity?**

Celine Dion. I was working on the CBC Olympic Games and that's how we got acquainted.

My ex-husband used to coach her on her English, and when she hosted her first Junos in 1995, he wrote her script and I worked on her image. That's how everything started.

**So be honest: Are they really better looking than the rest of us, or is it just good craftsmanship?**

It's not that they are better looking, but there are more people looking after them. It's their job to look good, and they're very aware of that so they really take care of themselves; they exercise, eat well, they have lots of people pampering them. I'm sure everybody with the same

regime would look a couple of years younger.

**Is there a simple thing we can do ourselves to at least approximate that?**

Exfoliation. I see lots of buildup from makeup. Use brown sugar at home with your favourite cleanser and scrub your face before you go to bed. You don't have to buy an expensive product. The sugar will melt so the granules won't be too harsh and scrape your face. Plus it's natural.

**You recently launched a new app. What's the idea behind it?**

Because I also teach makeup I realized there are lots of people who want to be

educated but don't have the resources. My staff and I talked to 200 girls between 13-25 and we asked them what they would like to know. Our app has techniques, lots of tutorials, and still photography.

**What's the response been like?**

The application was launched on Jan. 8. We haven't even been out for a month and we're getting up to 2,000 hits a day. And it's international, not just in Canada.

**Do you think the reality of today is that you can't just be an artist, you also have to be an entrepreneur?**

Definitely. 

### Cartoon

#### ANOTHER POPULAR PROTEST AGAINST AUTHORITARIAN RULE.

MICHAEL DE ADDER  




### Letters & Tweets

*We asked: What are your critical ingredients for a good Super Bowl party?*

**@ren\_thompson:** a case of Molson Canadian, heaping platters of wings, chips, dips, nachos and Alka-Seltzer.

**@dubstf:** a handful of feminist scholars, vegan bean dip, gluten-free nachos, a glass of organic vino + an Ashley Simpson halftime show.

**@zalinther:** Superbowl = beer, beer, beer. Oh, did I mention BEER??

**@kofi604:** critical ingredients for a super bowl party is ... beer, nachos, friends,

### Winning choice



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

hot wings, more beer!!!!!! And ur team winning!

**@runthewrldonmac:** #Superbowl. A great party has lots of air freshener.

**@fercarneiro:** Beer and a pre-Super Bowl game of football in the snow with your buddies. And beer.

**@miroslavglavic:** Wings,

beer and popcorn.

*We asked: In honour of Groundhog Day, what's your favourite Bill Murray movie?*

**TORONTO.** I think Groundhog Day narrowly edges out Ghostbusters. It was nice to see that Bill was capable of playing a romantic lead. **SCOTT GREGORY**

**Celebrate Pay A Compliment Day (Feb. 6) by saying something nice about a celebrity you don't like.**

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## Metro Minute at icewine festival

One can't help but get thirsty just thinking about it. Nova Scotia's world-renowned icewines will be on display across the province over the next 10 days for the fourth annual Nova Scotia International Icewine Festival.

The event, which runs through Feb. 13, includes the popular wine tasting, but also how to best pair

with local cuisine, the method behind making these award-winning wines and even trying one's hand at pruning.

There are even winter icewine getaways that one can learn all about. In total, there are more than 40 events taking place, with complete details available at [nsicewinefestival.ca](http://nsicewinefestival.ca).

• METRO

### Three days to play

HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH OF WINTER ALREADY?



**Anthony Thomas**

**COLE HARBOUR**

Yes, definitely. I dug out at least five times after the plow plowed me in this morning.



**Stephanie Mendez**

**FROM MEXICO CITY, STUDYING AT DALHOUSIE**

I'm a tourist and I come from Mexico so this is totally new for me. But I really like the weather and the rain and the snow-storm. I'm not waiting for spring to come because snow is new for me.



► Rhys Wakefield, left, and Richard Roxburgh are shown in a scene from *Sanctum*, which opens today.



### Big money



Thanks to the titanic grosses from his 3-D smash *Avatar*, director James Cameron was Hollywood's top money-earner in 2010, according to *Vanity Fair*. The Kapuskasing, Ont.-born filmmaker raked in an estimated \$257 million to land atop the magazine's list. The 56-year-old earned \$253 million in revenue from *Avatar* (which excludes the \$50 million he earned from the film in 2009) and \$4 million for his older films. Johnny Depp was next, followed by Steven Spielberg, Christopher Nolan and Leonardo DiCaprio.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Reel Guys

**RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN**  
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



# This is no *Avatar*

► Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin debate the Cameron-produced *Sanctum*  
► No-name actors don't deliver in the poorly-written film – but it is in 3-D

**Richard Crouse:** Mark, the early part of the year is supposed to be the worst movie going season, but so far it hasn't been so bad. But *Sanctum* is my first seatbelt movie of the year; a film so awful I thought I might need a seatbelt to keep me in my chair for the whole thing.

**Mark Breslin:** Oh, yeah? I'm a claustrophobe AND have a fear of water. Plus, I'm allergic to bad writing. So I squirmed through this as well. But let me say something good about the movie: the 3-D not only was technically superb, it enhanced the plot, what little there was. You must admit, it put you in the middle of the adventure.

**RC:** If you're allergic to bad writing then stay away.

#### Plot synopsis

In this James Cameron-produced 3-D underground extravaganza, a group of underwater cave divers explore a cave system in Papua New Guinea. The dangerous mission becomes even more life-

The dialogue is so wooden I swear I saw woodpeckers circling the theatre. I'll admit the 3-D was OK, and some of the pictures were beautiful, but I couldn't help but think it wasn't enough to keep me interested.

Don't you think, with some editing, it could have made a better National Geographic cave documentary than an adventure movie?

**MB:** Definitely. And one of the "characters" even references National Geographic!

threatening when a sudden storm floods the system. The only way out is a dangerous route downward toward the ocean. The question is: How many will survive?

► Ratings:  
Richard's: No globes  
Mark's: ♦

But then we wouldn't be treated to the stellar "acting" of the no-name cast. Richard, do you mean you weren't moved to tears by the way the son learns to love his irascible but courageous dad? Why, I haven't seen that in a movie in ... weeks!

**RC:** The father and son dynamic doesn't ring true, but then again, very little in this movie does. Scenes that should be tension-filled are just tedious and how is it that someone,

who we're told has "broken every bone in their body," is able to tightly grab the first character that walks by? Am I being too picky?

**MB:** No, but the scene does illustrate the limitations of a safety helmet. The scene that offended me was the climactic one between father and son, because it had already been done with other characters earlier on.

What could have been moving — even shocking — was banal. I should have stayed home and watched *The Hole* again.

**RC:** My advice is to stay home and watch anything else. Watch paint dry ... the acting is better. And a further word of advice: Don't be fooled by James Cameron's name in the credits. *Sanctum* is no *Avatar*.



It's a hard day's night for the Beatles tribute band Rain, who are returning to Broadway

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# Gnomeward bound

► **McAvoy stars as a lawn ornament in animated film Gnomeo and Juliet**



**NED EHRBAR**  
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

James McAvoy is gearing up for a busy 2011 as he finishes up filming X-Men: First Class, in which he stars as mutant leader Charles Xavier.

But first, he's finding love on the wrong side of the fence, lending his voice to the romantic lead in the animated Gnomeo and Juliet, with its soundtrack of Elton John classics.

McAvoy sat down with Metro to talk about voiceover work, joining the X-Men and where Elton John truly belongs.

**This is your first animated film?**

Yeah. I did a puppet film a long time ago, but that

was really just voicing over the work of a lot of Danish actors. Actually it's been really rewarding, artistically speaking. You get to go in and give it everything. And they don't even really tell you no, and they never tell you whether it's bad or good. Well, they do say it's great a lot, but you kind of go, "You say, 'It's great' to everything. I'm not sure it can be true because I was pretty crummy in that last one."

**Why do gnomes love Elton John music so much?**

Well, I think his natural place is in the garden. It's a little-known fact about Elton John, but I think he's a very green-fingered gentleman. And maybe that's why. I thought we were going to have Crocodile Rock in the movie. I didn't think we were going to get any-



► A scene from the film Gnomeo and Juliet.

thing else, so when I saw the film about a week and a half ago, I was really surprised to see that the entire musical concept for the film was taken from his back catalogue — and some new stuff as well.

You've got quite a supporting

**cast in this.**

I think my favourite, I have to say, is Hulk Hogan. Having Hulk Hogan is hysterical. That's the moment that I laughed more than anything else. Ozzy Osbourne was fantastic. Michael Caine, Dame Maggie Smith — and Jason

Statham! Oh my God, the Transporter! I actually raced the Transporter. Come on! Yeah, he doesn't mess with me, man. He knows where to draw the line. He knows he's punching above his weight.

How is X-Men: First Class go-



► James McAvoy

ing? Really good. We've got about another two weeks filming here, and then I think we're done. And like all movies, it's a slog. We're just working 24-7. It's big. It's a big, big, big production. It's kind of nice to be on those things.

**Are you prepared for the attention you'll get as part of a comic book franchise?**

What, prepared to run away and hide? I'm very much prepared to run away and hide. I'm very much prepared not to publicize it at all and just run away and hide.



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# Backstage with Bieber

► What's Bieber really like? ► This multi-millionaire pop superstar loves his fans, misses Tim Hortons



Each time I interview someone really famous the questions start. How's Gwyneth's skin? How tall is Brad Pitt? I've even been asked what George Clooney smells like.

But since I hosted a press event with Justin Bieber to publicize his new movie *Never Say Never* on Tuesday in Toronto, the question that everyone has asked is much more basic: What's he like?

I won't presume to be able to answer that question after only spending 30 or so minutes with the pop prodigy, but I have a few observations based on our short time together.

short time together.

bundle of energy. When he wasn't tweeting or sharing funny YouTube videos with his stylist Ryan, he was chatting and joking around.

"I hope you're a good translator," he joked as we walked to the stage. "Because I'm going to do the whole interview in Spanish." Then he burst into song, "Feliz Navidad."

song. *Feliz Navidad...*

Onstage, he showed another aspect of his personality.

Less than two years ago he was playing to 40 fans at a water park in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Now he can sell out Madison Square Gardens in 22 minutes. But he hasn't forgotten the people who got him there — his fans.

got him there — his fans. "Where are my fans at?" he asked. "There's a lot of fans [outside]. Can we bring

► Justin Bieber and Usher in Bieber's new movie *Never Say Never*.

those fans in? I love you guys with the cameras and stuff, but what's the point if my fans aren't here?"

Also, he's as humble as a pop superstar can be. When I asked him when he first felt famous, he said: "I

still don't really notice it. I'm still just a regular teenage boy, living his dream and having a lot of fun." Later I asked about household chores. "I do clean my room, especially when I'm home at my

grandma's house."

Lastly, I learned he's still a proud Canadian, with a taste for a particular icy cocktail not served in his new hometown of Atlanta, Georgia. "I miss Tim Hortons," he said. "I miss Tim-

my's! I miss my Ice Cap."

So what's Justin Bieber really like? Well, he's just like any other high-energy, fan-lovin' Canadian multi-millionaire 16-year-old pop superstar with a taste for chilled coffee.

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# 'Are you dating somebody?'

► Aniston's family still hasn't learned to deal with the constant tabloid speculation

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Jennifer Aniston is no stranger to fame, but there are still some aspects she hasn't gotten used to.

For instance, walking a red carpet still produces butterflies in her stomach. "It's a fun excitement," she says.

"It's sort of like going on stage, you know? It's butterflies, it's nerves, it keeps it new. Hopefully that fear will never go away."

One thing she would like to go away, of course, would be all the tabloid speculation about her personal life — though that will probably outlast her pre-carpet jitters.

Still, Aniston has learned how to weather the gossip storms, even if



► Jennifer Aniston stars alongside Adam Sandler in the new comedy *Just Go With It*.

her family hasn't.

"If I don't know that it's there, I'm just living my life, having fun doing my thing," she says. "The only way I'm really privy to it is when I have to field ques-

tions from my family members, because, for some reason, they still believe it's true."

And given how often she's on supermarket newsstands, that means a

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# 'No mom'



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jab at plastic surgery enthusiasts early on — and even features a quick cameo by Heidi Montag — but it also gave Aniston a chance to think about the practice and its implications.

"I think there's an extreme pressure on women and men to just stay young," she says.

"And the unfortunate thing is a lot of women who go too far end up looking a hell of a lot older than they actually are. It sort of has the reverse effect. So ... talk to me in 10 years."

Thanks to a much more A-list cameo, Aniston gets to spend a good amount of time in *Just Go With It* with Nicole Kidman, who pops up as her old sorority sister and nemesis.

But it wasn't Aniston's first exposure to Kidman.

"I had met her before and she was immediately disarming, so I knew how great of a girl she was," Aniston says. "I knew how funny she was. She pretty much can do anything."

But there was one thing Kidman couldn't do, it turns out: truly embody a mean girl.

"Nicole was so sweet. She would always feel really bad after she had to do something a little snarky to me," Aniston remembers.

"We'd cut and she'd just come over and be like, 'I'm so sorry.' It's so sweet."

lot of concerned phonecalls.

"You stay as far away from it as possible and just try to deal with the emails and phone calls from your mother, saying, 'Are you adopting?'" Aniston says with an exasperated laugh.

"Are you dating somebody? 'No, mom.' 'Well, Aunt Jean thinks...' 'No.' 'Are you getting married at Oprah's? An \$8 million wedding?' 'No. I told you,

The movie takes a few

don't believe it."

Aniston would much rather people focus on her work, like her latest comedy, *Just Go With It*, in which she stars as the best friend and assistant to a plastic surgeon (Adam Sandler) who goes along with a harebrained scheme to pose as his soon-to-be ex-wife to assuage a new girlfriend's fears that he's not a philanderer.

The movie takes a few

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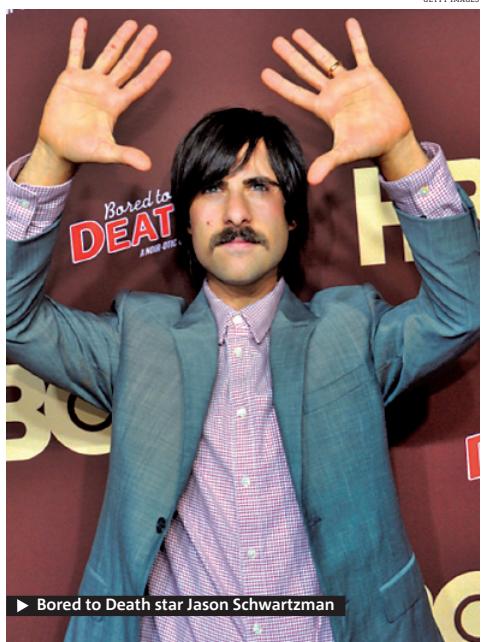
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# 'This guy is an actor?'

► Bored to Death's Jason Schwartzman talks TV, becoming a dad and wanting to be adopted by Ted Danson



► Bored to Death star Jason Schwartzman



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After making a name for himself in film, Jonathan Schwartzman has found a surprisingly comfortable home on TV in HBO's Bored to Death, where he channels the show's creator, Jonathan Ames, to play a down-on-his-luck Brooklyn novelist who becomes an unlicensed private investigator.

**How as it been coming back to Bored to Death for a second season?**

Fun. I've worked with the same directors a couple of times, and I've sometimes worked with an actor who I've worked with before, but I've never worked playing the same character. And it's a really great experience, personally, for someone like me. I get a little bit embarrassed some-

times, especially the first days of any job. It's embarrassing to say your lines. I just think about the crew. Like, are the crew going, "This guy is an actor?" But the second season, the same crew, they have already seen you be terrible, so there's really nothing to be afraid of anymore.

**Does that means you're in it for the long run?**

I would like to be, yeah. Have you heard something else?

**How much have your life and career changed since you've become a father?**

Well, I've just become a father. I'm sure there are other people who have been fathers for longer that would know. I mean, it's so cheesy to talk about. My wife and I, it's just the two of us trying to make our

child feel safe.

**How are you going to manage shooting and having a family at home?**

That is going to be fun, when we go to work. That's going to be a lot of roses for my wife and a lot of love letters and, like, surprises. That's going to be a lot of creativity on my part just trying to make my wife think I'm amazing. You look at someone like Matt Damon, who has four girls and he makes, like, a hundred amazing movies a year. I'm not in a position to talk about how hard it is. We just have a little baby, so at least I know where this one is.

**Working with co-stars like Ted Danson and Zach Galifianakis...as much fun as it sounds?**

It is. Not to take your ques-

tion and make it negative, but I have worked before on situations where it wasn't fun, where you just see someone acting in a way that just seems to be a little bit rude. And especially at the end of 20 hours, you really don't like certain people if you already didn't like them, because you just feels like, "OK, I can't fake this anymore." So to be able to work with Ted and Zach and have this experience where we're all getting along so well, I'm so thankful for it. And they're so up for trying things. Sometimes you can work with people who don't want to keep doing another take. They're just like, "Come on, we got it. I have a dinner reservation." But Ted and Zach want to work, and they just want to keep going as long as we feel that we need to. Ted, by the way, I want him to legally become my actual father.

## Surprise!

A source requesting anonymity told The Associated Press on Wednesday that R&B star Usher and former Guns N' Roses guitarist Slash are slated to make surprise appearances Sunday in the

Super Bowl halftime show. Usher and Slash are supposed to join the Black Eyed Peas, who are the main halftime act for Sunday's NFL championship game.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# White Stripes fade to black

► Meg and Jack White call it quits after 13 years

**PAT HEALY**  
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

In an announcement on their website on Wednesday, the White Stripes let the world know that they are breaking up.

It is interesting how it has almost been a full decade since I first became aware of Meg and Jack White's band. In 2001, my friend and I had a fledgling record label and we wanted to scout out the SXSW conference in Austin, Texas, to see if it would be feasible to get the bands on our roster to play there. Granted, 2001 was the year that Napster pretty much put a thumbtack in our tires before we even got rolling, so the label fizzled out within a few years.

But while we were there I had the opportunity to take in some great acts, including the White Stripes.

I have often bragged that I saw them play at a cookout. That is true, but I don't always disclose that the yard was packed, because it usually elicits more of the desired, "Whaaaaa!!!" if it sounds like a more inti-

mate affair. Anyway, we were right in front because we had heard a lot of buzz about this duo.

Dressed in what would come to be their trademark red getups, Jack stepped up to the mic as twilight was setting in and

said, "This is my sister, Meg" about the cute girl behind the drumkit that he had actually once been married to. Nobody had any idea at the time that it was just a gimmick.

What I remember most fondly from the evening was their

take on Dolly Parton's "Jolene" and "You're Pretty Good Looking," which is on YouTube if you search for "White Stripes — You're Pretty Good Looking — 2001/03/01."

As Meg and Jack said, the White Stripes belong to

me now and I can do with it whatever I want. What I want to do is remember them like they are in that video: intense, rockin' and even a little bit cute in a gimmicky way. Rock on, White Stripes.



► Jack and Meg White

## Cold War Kids get serious

The four guys in Cold War Kids came to a decision a few years back: It's time to go all in or get out.

The Long Beach, Calif., rockers had carved out a nice little niche over their first two albums using a do-it-yourself, punk-rock attitude to earn a fervent fan base and some buzz in the wider music community. But after their last album disappointed them in some ways, they realized it was time to stop treating the band like a hobby.

"We don't want to lose the vibe we have, but we need to blossom and branch out or we're pretty much going to be putting out the same record, you know, like a lot of bands do," bassist Matt Maust said.

In interviews during a stop at Jack White's Third Man Records in Nashville and by phone, Maust and lead singer Nathan Willett painted the picture of a band that found itself at an existential crossroads as it prepared for its third al-

bum, "Mine Is Yours," out last week.

Their previous album, 2008's

dark Loyalty to Loyalty, sold more copies than the band's shiny 2006 breakthrough, Robbers and Cowards, but it wasn't met with the same kind of fervour.

What the band had at that point was fun. But it just didn't feel important, or permanent.

In some ways, the process that produced the band's latest album, Mine Is Yours, shows the Kids have grown up and realized they could have a future in music, not just a youthful dalliance. Maust and Willett have both edged into their 30s and Willett and guitarist Jonnie Russell have started families.

"I realized I had huge desires and ambitions for

our band, and I kind of acted like I hadn't before, so a lot of that is playing into this record," Willett said. "I think that this album, Mine Is Yours — I hope

that it opens a lot of doors

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► Cold War Kids, from left, Matt Maust, Matt Aveiro, Nathan Willett, and Jonnie Russell.

## FASCINATING AND USELESS

### Sound Check

**ALAN CROSS**

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



single, audio quality on an LP degrades slightly as the needle moves towards the centre.

6. Jack White was headed to a seminary to study to become a priest when he discovered he couldn't bring his guitar amp. So he dropped out.

7. The first video ever shown on MTV was Video Killed the Radio Star. The second was You'd Better Run by Pat Benetar.

8. The album with the longest title in history is a 2007 release by a Belgian outfit called Soulwax. It's 103 words long, beating out Fiona Apple's old record of 90 words.

9. Most standard toilets flush in the key of E-flat. I have no idea who felt the need to figure this out.

10. Leo Fender, the guy who invented and marketed both the iconic Stratocaster and Telecaster guitars, couldn't play the guitar himself.

11. According to people who have researched sales data, the best-selling musical instrument in history is the harmonica.

12. James Lilja, the original drummer for the Offspring, left the band in 1987 and went on to become a successful gynecologist.

There. Don't you feel smarter?

for us, just in terms of more artists we can work with, more opportunities to record. I think it just showed us we are capable of a lot more."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

bored Austrian psychologists determined that cats tend to prefer music with deep bass and fast beats like heavy electronic music or house. They also hate guitar solos and songs with lots of high frequencies.

3. The first intentional use of the f-word in a song can be found in CIA Man by the Fugs from 1965.

4. When Apple constructed an iPod prototype in 2001, the first track engineers ripped from CD and transferred to the device was Groove Jet by an Italian DJ who goes by the name Spiller.

5. While a vinyl album sounds as good as a 7-inch

## Talking points

**Britney denies using body double**

PEOPLE Britney Spears has been accused of relying on a "dance double" for her new music video, something her reps are quick to refute.

"The accusations could not be further from the truth," her rep says in a statement to E! News.

"Britney worked extremely hard on this video and rehearsed for six weeks prior to shooting."

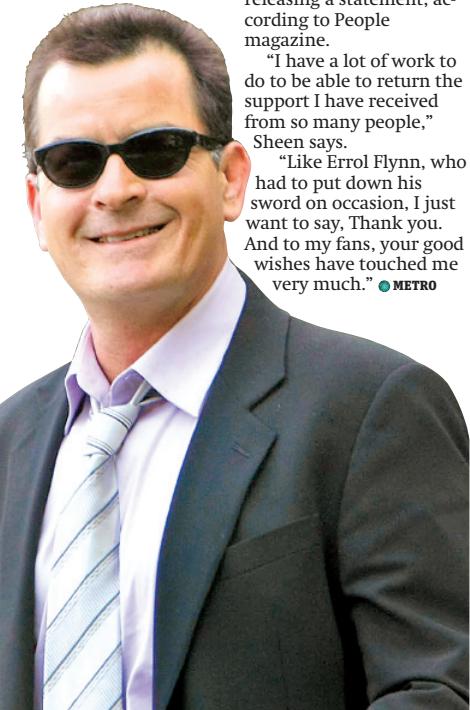
The clip's director, Jonas Akerlund, even released a statement defending Spears, saying, "She's been great throughout the entire process." • METRO

**Johansson dines with Reynolds**

PEOPLE Scarlett Johansson and Ryan Reynolds were spotted dining out in L.A. recently, but if Johansson's demeanor during dinner is any indication, they're not getting back together.

"She would at some points smile, then appear to fight back tears," a source tells Us Weekly.

"They have divorce details to work out, and



## Celebrity tweets



**Carrie Fisher**  
[@CarrieFFisher] no authority is higher than reality



**Leonard Nimoy**  
[@TheRealNimoy] Sorry for the East Coast under snow. I'm finishing a great vacation. Looking forward to doing some appearances.



**Nick Frost**  
[@nick-jfrost] I'm awake!



**Sarah Silverman**  
[@SarahKSilverman] Life is so short! I'm gonna watch every possible episode of Law&Order while I'm strong & healthy!

they'd rather do it face-to-face than in some office." • METRO

**Charlie Sheen thanks fans for support**

PEOPLE While receiving personalized rehab treatment, Charlie Sheen decided to show his gratitude to his supporters by releasing a statement, according to People magazine.

"I have a lot of work to do to be able to return the support I have received from so many people," Sheen says.

"Like Errol Flynn, who had to put down his sword on occasion, I just want to say, Thank you. And to my fans, your good wishes have touched me very much." • METRO

# Kidman spills on marriage to Cruise

**► Admitting that being a wife to Tom was more than she'd bargained for**

Nicole Kidman is opening up about her marriage to Tom Cruise and the state her split from her first husband left her in.

"I was really damaged and not sure whether (love and marriage) was ever going to happen again to me," she tells Marie Claire magazine. She admits that being Cruise's wife turned out to be more than she'd bargained for.

"I was never seeking to be a celebrity," she says. "But I was prepared to do that for love." • METRO



GETTY IMAGES FILE

## Kate Moss getting hitched?

Kate Moss is reportedly engaged to marry



boyfriend Jamie Hince, according to the Sun.

"Kate is delighted. Jamie is the man for her," a source says. "They are soul

mates. She just wanted to make him work for her hand in marriage. He has been badgering her to get married, but she wanted to take her time."

The couple plans to wed in July. Moss reportedly joked to friends that she will be the most famous Kate to get married in 2011, taking a swipe at Prince William's fiancée, Kate Middleton.

• METRO

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING

## BARBIE IS STILL KEN'S DREAM GIRL

The gossip columns have been all aflutter for months with the news that Ken is doing everything he can to woo Barbie back

into his life.

His latest stunt was a doozy. While Barbie dined atop the CN Tower with a girlfriend, Ken had an airplane fly by several times pulling a banner that read: 'Barbie, we were made for each other.'

Ken was spotted at the base of the tower looking hopeful. And, an unnamed source said Barbie's face lit up immediately and she couldn't stop smiling all night.



**SHOULD BARBIE TAKE KEN BACK?**  
Have your say at [barbieandken.com](http://barbieandken.com)

3  
life

## Beer Cocktails



Something new is on tap on the bar scene as mixologists brew up beer cocktails.

"Beer as an ingredient can offer such a variety of flavours," says Jacob Grier, a drinks blogger. "They can be sweet and malty. They can have chocolate roasty notes. That make excellent cocktails."

Grier was introduced to the beer cocktail after watching Canadian beer writer Stephen Beaumont concoct some at a cocktail event.

When mixing beers with spirits, it's important to look for harmony, like the fruitiness of rums and most IPAs, or the aromatics of some blond ales and gins, says Beaumont.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Scan this code or visit  
metronews.ca/food for more  
information on beer cocktails.

# Game grub – with a twist

► These aren't your tired Super Bowl snacks ► Upgrade your chips & dip



EMILY RICHARDS  
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

## Guacamole Salsa Dip

Fresh ripe avocados make a creamy dip that is perfect for dipping crunchy tortilla chips into. Need some added colour? Try veggies to dip alongside.

### Ingredients:

- 2 ripe avocados
- ½ cup (125 mL) hummus
- ½ cup (125 mL) salsa
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) lime juice
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) salt
- Chopped fresh coriander (optional)

### Preparation:

**1** In large bowl, using a potato masher, mash avocado until smooth. Stir in hummus, salsa, jalapeno, lime juice and salt. Sprinkle with coriander, if using.

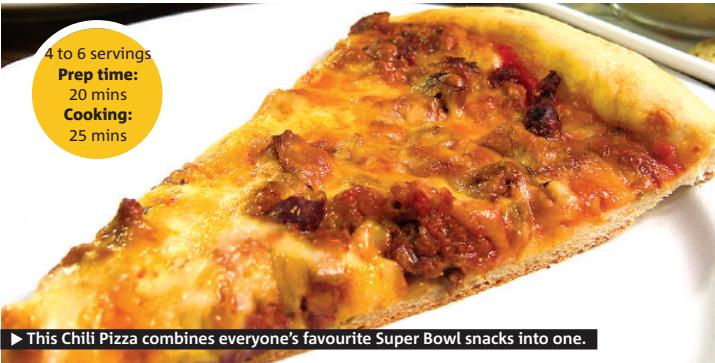
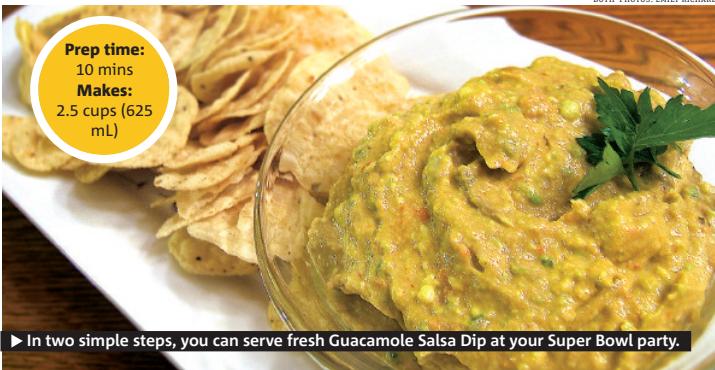
**2** Serve with tortilla chips or veggies

### Chili Pizza

I decided to take the two things most people like to eat while watching and enjoying the Super Bowl and combine them into one.

### Preparation:

**1** In a nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium heat and cook onion and garlic for about 3 minutes or until softened. Add beef, chili powder, oregano and cumin and cook, breaking up meat for about 8 minutes or until browned. Add



tomatoes, red pepper, beans and salt and cook for about 5 minutes. Set aside.

**2** Roll out pizza dough to 14 inch (35 cm) circle and place on pizza pan. In a bowl, combine pizza sauce and cayenne. Spread over pizza dough. Sprinkle with chili mix and cheese.

**3** Bake in centre of 400 F (200 C) oven for about 25 minutes or until cheese is melted and crust is golden.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV

CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE ON EMILY, VISIT [EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA](http://EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

### Ingredients:

- 2 tsp (10 mL) canola oil
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 8 oz (250 g) extra lean ground beef
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) chili powder
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano leaves
- ½ tsp (2 mL) ground cumin
- 1 can (14 oz/398 mL) diced tomatoes, drained
- Half sweet red pepper,
- 1 cup (250 mL) cooked canned drained and rinsed kidney beans
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) salt
- 1 pkg (680 g) pizza dough (homemade or store-bought)
- ¾ cup (175 mL) pizza or pasta sauce
- Pinch cayenne pepper
- 2 cups (500 mL) Tex mex/nacho flavoured shredded cheese mix

## Battle of the brews



PETER ROCKWELL  
LIQUIDASSET@EASTLINK.CA  
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

I have a confession. This Super Bowl Sunday, I'll be drinking wine as I watch the big game. That makes me one of a very small minority of football fans because the day undeniably belongs to beer.

And why shouldn't it? With all due respect to the ladies, beer is a perfect companion for guy food.

Whether it be nachos smothered in cheese and sprinkled with jalapeño peppers, bowls of salty potato chips or greasy takeout pizza: The clean, thirst-quenching taste and refreshing effervescence of a good brew (especially a lager style) helps wash it all down better than any wine.

That said, though Pittsburgh and Green Bay may be fighting it out on the field, this Sunday is really a battle of the beers.

And while Budweiser, Bud Light and Coors Light will spend millions on commercials — and no doubt be the guests of honour at most Super Bowl parties — there is so much more to American suds.

Anchor Steam (6 x 355 mL, \$12.50 - \$13.55; 1 x 355 mL, \$2.99) from San Francisco's Anchor Steam Brewery is an iconic West Coast ale

with a U.K. sensibility that comes through in its lightly roasted, well-balanced malt flavour.

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# A weight is lifted as Grant finds mesh

► Veteran busts brutal 23-game slump ► Saturday last game before eight of nine on road

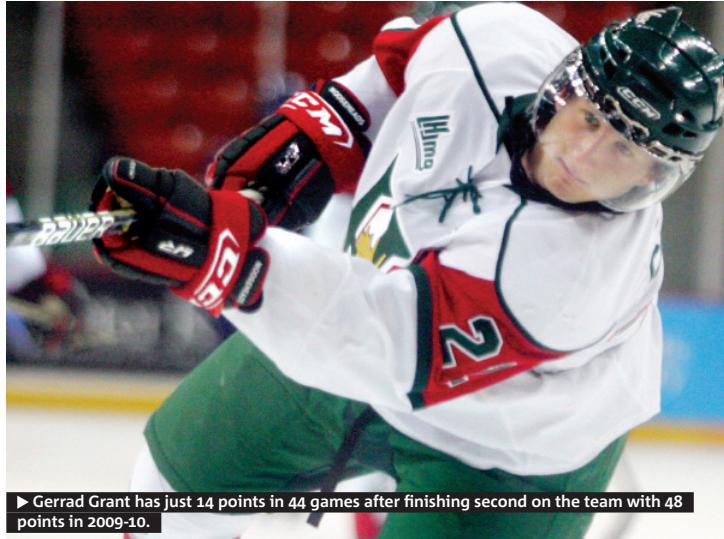
 MATTHEW WUEST  
@METRONEWS.CA

There were only about 500 fans on hand to see Gerrad Grant score his first goal in more than three months, but he wouldn't have cared if the rink was empty.

All that mattered to the 20-year-old Halifax Mooseheads left-winger on Wednesday was the fact he had wiped out a brutal 23-game goalless streak that had become increasingly frustrating since his last tally on Oct. 30.

"It sucked a lot and I can't blame anybody but myself," Grant said. "I'm working hard ... but it's one of those things where I've been snake-bitten, I guess ... I've had chances, but I haven't buried them."

The Halifax native and former Dartmouth Subways star was expected to be an offensive leader as an over-ager this season. He finished second in team scoring in 2009-10 with 22 goals among 48 points in 64



► Gerrad Grant has just 14 points in 44 games after finishing second on the team with 48 points in 2009-10.

games.

But the loss of captain and linemate Tomas Knotek was a bigger blow than expected. He has just five goals and nine assists

through 44 games and has been a healthy scratch on several occasions.

"Me and Tomas had great chemistry and he's a great player ... That's prob-

ably why I had as many points as I did," Grant said. "This year, I've been bouncing around lines."

Grant, who was the first star in Wednesday's 5-2 up-

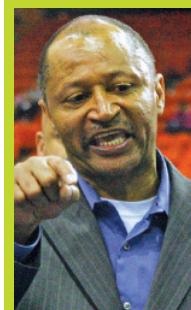
## Up next

### Moose host Sea Dogs

The Mooseheads, 17-31-3, host the nation's top team on Saturday at 7 p.m. when the Saint John Sea Dogs, 42-5-3, visit the Metro Centre. The Sea Dogs pounded the Herd 9-2 the last time the two teams met on Jan. 8.

## sports

### Quoted



**"The athleticism of the starting five has stands out and the passion of the starting five has stands out. Those guys are developing that work ethic, that**

**San Antonio mentality that the Spurs have, that approach to the game. That's what we're striving for, and with our starting five, we're starting to see that."**

HALIFAX RAINMEN HEAD COACH MIKE EVANS ON HIS STARTING FIVE OF TALIEK BROWN, MIKE MERCER, MARSHALL BROWN, JOSH DOLLARD AND JAMES (BOO) JACKSON.

## Rainmen expecting a fight from Kebs

The Halifax Rainmen are well aware the Quebec Kebs are basement dwellers no more.

The Kebs, who visit the Metro Centre on Friday at 7 p.m., are 6-3 and just a half game behind the Rainmen in the Premier Basketball League standings.

Under new head coach Rob Spon, the Kebs are averaging a league-low 96.1 points against and have turned it around after going a combined 10-30 in 2009 and 2010.

"I could tell from the second game of the season they were a team that was going to contend," said Rainmen small forward Marshall Brown, who scored 14 points in a 106-98 road win over the Kebs on Jan. 6.

"They've gotten a lot better since the time we played them — and so have we — so it's going to be a good game."

The Kebs have been battling some injuries recently but are reportedly expect-

ing ex-NBA guard Erick Barkley, a one-time Portland Trailblazer, to make his PBL debut soon, possibly as early as Friday in Halifax.

"Barkley knows the game, he's got NBA experience and they've just got good players — that's the bottom line," Brown said. "It was a dogfight (on Jan. 6) and we expect the same on Friday."

► MATTHEW WUEST



► Rainmen small forward Marshall Brown.



Scan code for more sports

## The championship awaits

Defending champion Ian Fitzner-LeBlanc stands alone atop the leaderboard at the Molson Cup Nova Scotia men's curling championship.

Fitzner-LeBlanc won a pair of games on Thursday to improve to 3-0 at the Dartmouth Curling Club. Unaffiliated Ken Myers and Mayflower's Mark Robar, both 2-0, are the only other unbeaten skips.

Chris Sutherland and Mark Dacey, both of Mayflower, and Peter Burgess of Truro are also off to good starts with 2-1 records.

Action continues throughout the weekend with the championship on Sunday at 2 p.m. ■ METRO

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

STEELERS  
TO WATCHRashard Mendenhall,  
RB

► Has become workhorse back Steelers hoped for in drafting him in first round in 2008.



Mike Wallace, WR

► Pittsburgh's speed demon, Wallace also has developed as an all-around pass catcher.



James Harrison, ROLB

► All-Pro linebacker and among most intimidating defenders in league. Led NFL in fines for illegal hits, even threatened to retire after NFL's crackdown.

How the two starting Super Bowl quarterbacks compare  
**STRENGTH IN NUMBERS**

**BEN ROETHLISBERGER**

Regular-season stats:

**97**

QB rating during the regular season. Missed first four games while suspended for violating NFL's personal conduct policy, then went 9-3.

17  
TOUCHDOWNS

**266.7**  
Average passing yards per game, for total of 3,200 yards.

**8.2**

Yards per pass, third best in NFL.

**5.2**

Yards per rush, for a total of 176 yards.



240

COMPLETIONS (61.7%)

389  
PASS ATTEMPTS475  
PASS ATTEMPTS

312

COMPLETIONS (65.7%)

**AARON RODGERS**

Regular-season stats:

**101.2**

QB rating during the regular season, best in the NFC and third best in the league. In the post-season his QB rating has been 109.2 over three games.

28  
TOUCHDOWNS

**261.5**  
Average passing yards per game, for total of 3,922 yards.

**8.3**

Yards per pass, second best in NFL.

**5.6**

Yards per rush, for a total of 356 yards.



389

PASS ATTEMPTS



475

PASS ATTEMPTS

PACKERS  
TO WATCH

James Starks, RB

► Didn't do much in regular season with only 29 carries, but has emerged in playoffs.



Greg Jennings, WR

► One of league's most versatile and dangerous receivers. Will go over middle, down sidelines, anywhere to get the ball.

Charles Woodson,  
LCB

► 2009 defensive player of the year, Woodson is force against run and pass. Shutdown cover man who pops up all over the field.



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# Big Ben needs more than big win

► QB's marketability in tatters due to notoriety ► Experts say Super Bowl can't fully restore image

By Sunday night, Ben Roethlisberger could be in rarefied company as a three-time Super Bowl-winning quarterback.

Yet even if he joins the likes of superstar Tom Brady and Hall of Famer Troy Aikman, marketing experts say the Steelers QB probably won't overcome his off-the-field notoriety—including two sexual assault accusations—and pick up the flurry of endorsements NFL champs typically enjoy.

"You don't build back trust with one-game performance, even if it's the Super Bowl," said Bill Glenn, senior vice-president of the Dallas-based sports-business firm The Marketing Arm. "I'd be surprised if there's a long line outside his agent's office even if he wins MVP."

Roethlisberger has had a minimal presence in advertising since he was accused in March of sexually assaulting a 20-year-old college student—the second time since 2008 that he faced assault allegations. Georgia authorities declined to bring charges, but he received a four-game suspension at the start of this season for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy.

His sturdy play since his return has won back the hearts of some Pittsburgh fans who had soured on him. But nationally, according to marketing experts, his image remains tarnished.

"The best thing Mr. Roethlisberger can do is have a very quiet week off the field and a very loud week on the field," said Kevin Adler, CEO of the Chicago-based sports consulting firm Engage Marketing.

"With a good game and a quiet off-season, there's an opportunity to develop a maturation of his brand in the future."

The challenge facing Roethlisberger is starkly illustrated in the so-called N-Scores, which the Nielsen Co. compiles to rate athletes' endorsement potential based on their appeal, name recognition and other factors. His score has plummeted from above 140 in 2008 to 24 in the wake of



**"I want to be the guy people look up to. I want to be that kind of husband, father and grandfather someday if I am lucky enough."**

BEN ROETHLISBERGER

the assault cases; by comparison, Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers' score is 39 and Peyton Manning's is 262.

John Sweeney, a professor of sports communication at the University of North Carolina's journalism school, noted that Roethlisberger—even pre-scandal—was never in Manning's league as a pitchman.

He won deals to represent a barbecue sauce, a Pittsburgh auto dealership and a beef jerky brand, although that company dropped him last year. He also remains on the roster of athletes signed by Nike to wear its gear, although Nike confirmed it hasn't used him in recent advertisements.

"When people talk about marketability with Ben, how far is he going to fall anyway?" Sweeney asked. "He's not a huge player in the huge sponsorship market, so there's not as much that's threatened."

Roethlisberger himself, during the run-up to Sunday's game, has tried to deflect talk about his suspension and off-field problems.

His agent, Ryan Tollner, didn't respond to a request for comment on the marketability issue, made through his firm, Irvine, Calif.-based Rep 1 Sports Group.

The firm's website says the marketing portfolio assembled by Tollner for Roethlisberger "generates millions of dollars per year, with creative deals such as Big Ben's BBQ Sauces, Big Ben's Beef Jerky, a T-shirt campaign, memorabilia arrangement and profitable website." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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## Punter gets chance to pay back Packers

Jeremy Kapinos was sitting at home two months ago, waiting anxiously for another chance at the NFL.

Then, his phone rang one night and it was the Pittsburgh Steelers. They needed a fill-in punter after Daniel Sepulveda was injured, and Kapinos was on a flight from Arlington, Va., the next day.

A few tryout kicks and he had the job.

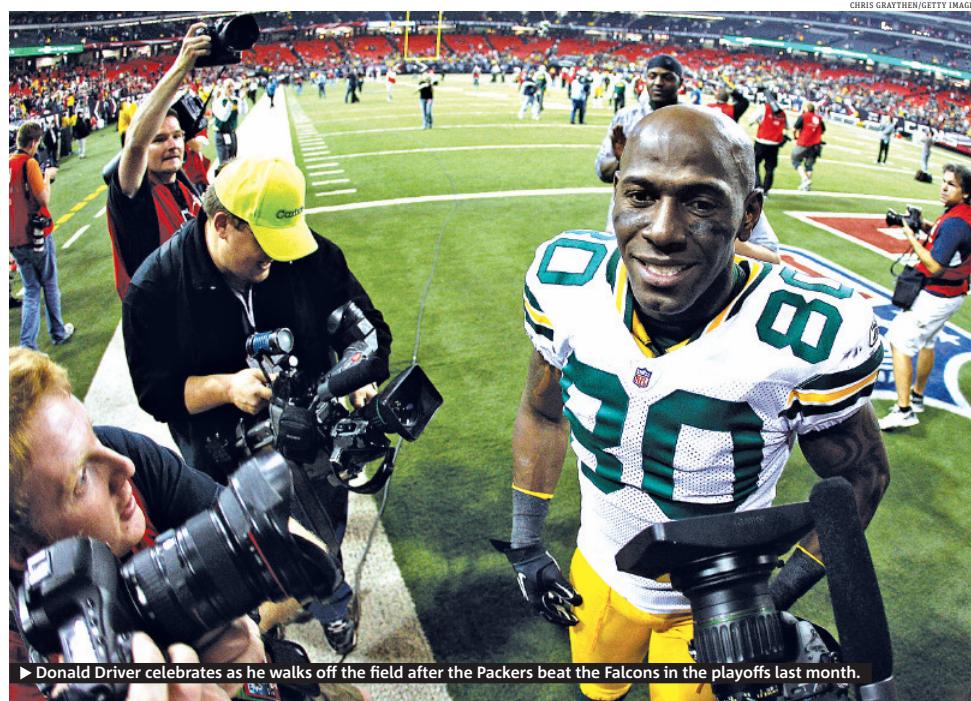
"I certainly wasn't thinking that this was where I was going to end up," Kapinos said, "but I was pretty confident that if something came up and I had the opportunity, I'd take advantage of it."

After all, he expected to be punting for the Green Bay Packers and helping them make a championship run. Instead, he wasn't re-signed last season and went home angry. After a one-week stint earlier this season in Indianapolis, he now gets a chance to help beat the Packers team that rejected him — in the Super Bowl, no less.

"The past is the past," Kapinos said. "I think my emotions fall more with the fact that this is the Steelers and because I went to Penn State. A lot of my friends and teammates are Steelers fans and you always hear about them, so that means more to me than anything else."

Kapinos, who averaged 41.1 yards in regular-season games with the Steelers, could play a pivotal role Sunday by helping establish field position against the tough Packers defence. It could be the perfect caper to his journey.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Veteran hands

► Ward and Driver mentor runaway receivers who could make difference

Hines Ward — soon to be all of 35 — stroked his whiskers and pondered the suggestion. Yes, he liked being called a mentor.

Donald Driver, who just turned 36, winced a bit before admitting that, yes, he liked it, too.

Pittsburgh's Ward and Green Bay's Driver, with a quarter-century in the NFL combined, no longer are the runaway receivers for their teams. No matter. There will be plenty of downfield dynamos around them Sunday when the Steelers and Packers meet in the Super Bowl.

"Sometimes you just have to accept your role,"

Driver said Thursday. "This year we had a bunch of great receivers that were able to step up. I had an injury earlier in the year that kind of set me back, but I think our young guys stepped up and played well."

"Those are the types of guys you want on the team, the ones that any time one of the veteran guys go down, they step up."

That would mean backups James Jones and Jordy Nelson. They complemented No. 1 receiver Greg Jennings and Driver so well that Green Bay had the fifth-best passing game in the league despite little

balance and a third-string rookie getting much of the action at tight end.

Ward is surrounded by Mike Wallace, whose development in two NFL seasons has been "spectacular," Ward says, and rookies Antonio Brown and Emmanuel Sanders.

"I just try to spread my knowledge to these guys about the game," said Ward, the MVP of the 2006 Super Bowl. "The first Super Bowl, it was (Antwaan) Randle-El and myself. And the second Super Bowl, it was Santonio (Holmes) and myself. And now, playing in a third Super Bowl, it's Mike Wallace."

If the young players lean on the 13-year vet for guidance, Ward and the Steelers lean on them, too.

"With those guys, the more and more the season went on, the more and more they gained confidence and the more and more Ben (Roethlisberger) had confidence in them to make plays," Ward said.

"They just stepped up each time their number was called. There's going to be a point in this game where not only myself, but the younger guys will have to step up big and make plays, and we have all the confidence in the world that they'll do it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## GM who let Favre leave is forgiven

The website devoted to Ted Thompson's ouster from Green Bay doesn't get many hits anymore. Not too much going on there these days, except for this message: "I'm not afraid to admit it. I was wrong. Congrats Ted."

"I get that a lot," he said.

The man who put the Packers on a path that led to an ignominious exit for Brett Favre, replacing him at quarterback with Aaron Rodgers and, now, a return to the Super Bowl, says he isn't into "I told you so."

He's been around football too long for smugness.

"This business," Green Bay's general manager said, "is way too hard to sit back and reflect on the past. You try to learn from your mistakes, but you don't spend any time at all going backward."

Despite what comes off as his high-risk, high-reward method of decision-making, Thompson may be the most modest and soft-spoken of the NFL's 32 GMs.

The moves he's best known for — the ones that spawned the website and made him a lightning rod for disgruntled fans in Green Bay — were the decisions to pick Rodgers at No. 24 in the 2005 draft, then hand him the team three years later after trading Favre.

Thompson has spent the week deflecting requests to discuss his role in that unsettling chain of events — the moves most widely recognized as the ones that led to Green Bay's latest renaissance.

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# Yanks' rotation loses backbone

Andy Pettitte retires with 203 Yankee victories, trailing only Whitey Ford and Red Ruffing

Andy Pettitte is going ahead with his decision to retire, leaving the New York Yankees with two huge holes in what appears to be a rather wobbly starting rotation.

The team scheduled a Friday morning news conference at Yankee Stadium for Pettitte to announce the choice he had been leaning toward since the end of last

season.

"I don't think enough people know that he's still the leader of this pitching staff until today," former Yankee Paul O'Neill said in a telephone interview.

A five-time World Series champion and the third-winningest pitcher in team history, Pettitte became a free agent after the World Series. The 38-year-old left-

**19**

Pettitte set a major league record for post-season wins, going 19-10 with a 3.83 ERA in his career.

hander has not tried to negotiate a contract.

New York now has no

proven starters behind CC Sabathia, Phil Hughes and A.J. Burnett, who struggled last season.

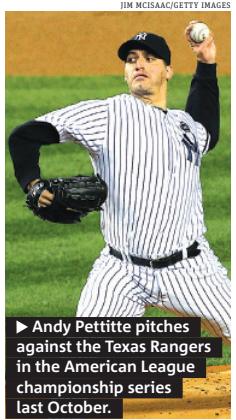
Having failed to sign free agent Cliff Lee, New York has agreed to minor-league contracts with Bartolo Colon and Freddy Garcia in recent weeks, trying to find more options for a fourth and fifth starter.

Pettitte finished 240-138

with a 3.88 ERA in 16 major league seasons. A member of the "Core Four" along with Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada, Pettitte helped the Yankees win the World Series in 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2009.

He spent 13 seasons in New York and two with his hometown Houston Astros.

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► Andy Pettitte pitches against the Texas Rangers in the American League championship series last October.

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## Crossword

**Across**

1 Dandy  
4 Thrash  
8 Injury  
12 Flightless bird  
13 Wash  
14 Diva's showstopper  
15 Secular  
17 Cincinnati team  
18 Not digital  
19 Mimic  
21 Hubbub  
22 Entices  
26 Suburban sprawls  
29 Leprechauns' dance  
30 Storm center  
31 Rue the run  
32 Vehicle with sliding doors  
33 One of the Three Bears  
34 "No seats" sign  
35 Mediterranean fruit tree  
36 Mathematician Leonard  
37 "—fugit"  
39 Mountain  
40 "Entourage" role  
41 Grape that's seen better days?  
45 Walked (on)  
48 Pattern  
50 Tart  
51 Bullring cheers  
52 Mauna —  
53 Sampras of tennis  
54 Carousel, e.g.  
55 Charlemagne, for ex.

**Down**

1 Crumbly cheese  
2 Portent



## ► Yesterday's answer



## Today's horoscope



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

**Aries** March 21-April 20 Not everything in life can be explained logically and what happens today will most likely make you question a belief you have always taken for granted. That's good: it's limiting to think you know it all.

**Taurus** April 21-May 21 The more others complain about what you are doing, the more you will keep on doing it. You would think by now they might have worked out that the one thing you don't say to Taurus is "cannot".

**Gemini** May 22-June 21 You like surprises, especially when you're the one calling the shots, and what you do over the next 24 hours is clearly designed to amaze others.

**Cancer** June 22-July 22 These may be anxious times for you, but if you stand back from your life and see it as a whole, rather than just focus on individual things that are going wrong, you will see that you are still making progress.

**Leo** July 23-Aug. 23 Because you like to make up your mind quickly, it annoys you when others dither over what should be a simple decision. Today, you'll be the one who keeps everyone else waiting.

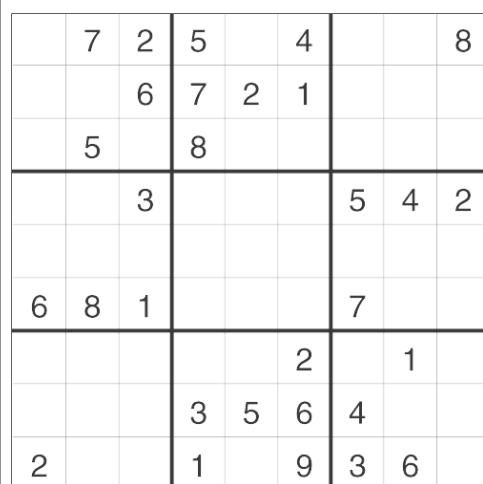
**Virgo** Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Approach a chore you have to do with energy. Not only will you make a good job of it, which will do your reputation no harm at all, but you may discover a hidden talent.

**Libra** Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Not everything will work out the way you expect it to today but, it won't worry you in the slightest. You'll just get on and do something else.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Certain people may be leaving out facts and figures that could affect the decisions you make today, so be sure you know what is going on before putting pen to paper. Listen to your Scorpio intuition.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Forget about trivial matters and focus only on the big issues today. Socially, this should be a day to remember but you'll enjoy it more if you avoid people whose interests are superficial.

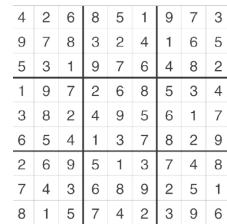
## Sudoku



## How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Yesterday's answer ►



## Today

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\* Flurries  
40%

## Saturday

-1°/-2°  
Sunny



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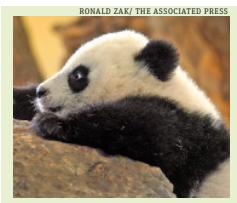
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*Boo, I can't wait until we're together again. I miss you so much! You are the best thing that ever happened to me. I'll love you forever! Your hunny bunny, ANDREA*

*Babylove, today doesn't hold any particular significance for us...but I thought I'd let you know that everyday is a special occasion as long as your mine! \*Kiss\* Yours, as always. MATT*

*dear Julia, you are the love of my life, i love you with all my heart and soul, i know i have been a fool i hope u can find it in your heart to forgive me . i want to spend the rest of my life with you BOULIE*

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